Application No.: 10/004,603 Docket No.: 09469/070001; 94.0046 (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Stephen H. Decatur

Confirmation No.: 8192

Application No.: 10/004,603

Art Unit: 3629

Filed: October 23, 2001

Examiner: M. L. Brooks

For: MOTIVATING PROSPECTING FOR

VALUABLE COMPONENTS

DECLARATION PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.131

In connection with the Applicant's Response to the non-final Office Action dated November 1, 2007, this Declaration sets forth the pertinent facts proving conception of the claimed invention no later than <u>October 11, 2000</u>, and diligence until at least constructive reduction to practice, with the filing of U.S Provisional Application Serial No. 60/249,304, on November 16, 2000, and the eventual filing of the instant application as U.S. Application Serial No. 10/004,603, on October 23, 2001.

- I, Stephen H. Decatur, am the sole listed inventor for U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/004,603 entitled: "Motivating Prospecting for Valuable Components."
- 2. I, Stephen H. Decatur, conceived the claimed invention no later than October 11, 2000, as evidenced by the invention disclosure questionnaire (hereafter "Disclosure") attached to an email dated October 11, 2000 (see Tab 1). The subject matter of said Disclosure is the basis for the claimed subject matter in

1

Application No.: 10/004,603 Docket No.: 09469/070001; 94.0046 (PATENT)

both U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/249,304 and U.S. Application Serial No. 10/004,603.

- I, Stephen H. Decatur, conceived the claimed invention no later than October 11,
 2000, as set forth above in the United States.
- 4. I, Stephen H. Decatur, diligently worked on the reduction to practice of the invention until at least the filing of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/249,304 on November 16, 2000 (see Tab 2), as evidenced by (i) various fields of the Disclosure (see Tab 1) discussing the conception and completion of the invention; (ii) an email to Mr. Robert Sloat in the BP Amoco Corporation Law Department dated October 11, 2000, referencing the Disclosure as an attachment (without signed pages) as shown in Tab 1; and (iii) an email from Mr. Robert Sloat dated October 12, 2000, discussing the proposed filing of a patent application (see Tab 3).
- 5. I, Stephen H. Decatur, continued to diligently work on the reduction to practice of the invention until the filing of U.S. Application Serial No. 10/004,603, on October 23, 2001 (see Tab 4), as evidenced by: (i) an email from Lottie C, Wanninger, an associate of Mr. Robert Sloat, dated December 1, 2000, requesting I, Stephen H. Decatur, sign page 4 of the Disclosure (see Tab 5); and (ii) a letter from Mr. Robert Sloat dated March 14, 2001, requesting I, Stephen H. Decatur, execute the assignment for U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/249,304 (see Tab 6).

Application No.: 10/004,603 Docket No.: 09469/070001; 94.0046 (PATENT)

I, Stephen H. Decatur, hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Stephen H. Decatur

Signed this 4 day of April 2008.

From: Sent: To: Subject:

Decatur, Steve H Wednesday, October 11, 2000 10:01 AM Sloat, Robert E.

Bob, I got your voice mail this morning.

Attached is a draft of the patent form you sent.

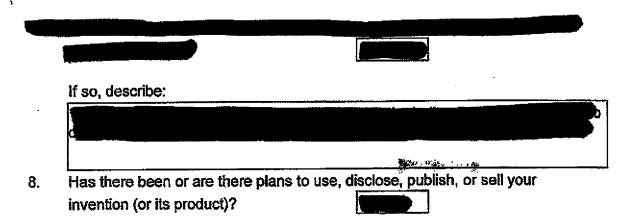


INVENTION EDISCRESSION PROPERTIES TO NO NAVA POR

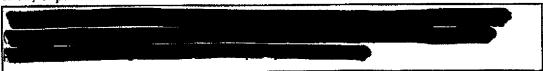
 $\tilde{\Lambda}^{-31}$

1	Descriptive Title:					
	Virtual Prospect					
2.	Company/Business Unit (include Project No.):					
3.	Date when you conceived the invention? February, 2000					
	Specifically Identify and attach copies of all notebook pages, letters, reports, drawings, and memos relating to the invention.					
	Sent to Robert Sloat on 10/3/00.					
4.	Earliest disclosure to others within the company (where, when, and to whom; oral or written; cite records):					
	December, 1999 in Houston, Texas to Niloy Shah. The first written records and meetings with others date to February, 2000.					
5.	Earliest date invention was operated or made (when and where, who observed the tests):					
	Pilot is preparing to launch in ate October, 2000.					
	Records relied on:					
6.	Has the invention (or its product) been shown to, offered to, or described to persons outside the company? If yes, explain where, when, and the circumstances.					
•	Schlumberger June, 2000 – discussing with Schlumberger and Geco-Prakla how Virtual Prospect would work provided by PGS June, 2000 – same conversation as we had with Schlumberger. Landmark, August, 2000 –					

Property of Amoco Chemicals
Proprietary—To Be Maintained in Confidence



If so, explain:



9. What problems did your invention solve? Summarize prior practice. How does your invention solve the problem or have an advantage over prior practice? Any other potential uses? How will invention benefit the company?

The Virtual Prospect concept allows bp to develop prospective exploration opportunities from a wide array of individuals that are not employees. The concept allows bp to purchase opportunities that bp likes. Prior practice has been to hire consultants, resulting in payments with unsatisfactory results. This practice can also be used to use the website to improve field production by paying for production opportunities that bp finds attractive. The company will benefit through identifying, drilling, and producing additional gas and oil exploration prospects.

con	ntify the scope of patent and literature searched for prior art. List the nputer search reference number, and list and enclose all patents and licty-available documents relating to your invention.
sub exa	nch a detailed description of invention. If drawings or sketches are useful, mit a copy and refer to drawings in description by numbered items. Specific mples (including test procedures and protocols) and operable ranges for cesses should be included.
	of description of invention (try to use less than 100 words for abstracting poses):
	Advertise bp exploration blocks, through a public website for geoscientists interested in interpreting geological and geophysical data.
•	Interested geoscientists apply for rights to interpret geological and geophysical data on bp blocks.
3)	Bp screen geoscientists applications and selects successful candidates.
,	Successful geoscience candidates receive geological and geophysical data from bp and begin data interpretation.
	Successful candidates review data interpretations with bp personnel. Bp personnel pay candidates for interpreted prospects bp selects to drill.
	ected scope of invention. (State also how and to what extent possible ivalents in materials, steps, or machine elements have been investigated.)
	Successful candidate reviews unselected prospects with other oil companies select to drill. Other oil companies pay candidates for prospects they select to l.

14. Signatures

INVENTOR(S)

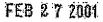
Stephen D	ecatur		***************************************				
(Signature) (Street Address)			(Printed Name) . (Signature)				
							(Street Address)
			City	County State	Zip	City	County State
Citizenship			Citizenship				
Social Security No.			Social Secu	rity No.			
	(Printed Name)			(Printed Name)			
	(Signature)			(Signature)			
	(Street Address)	**************************************		(Street Address)			
City Citizenship	County State	Zip	City Citizenship	County State	Zip		
Social Security No.			Social Secu	rity No.			
,	(Printed Name)			(Printed Name)			
	(Signature)			(Signature)			
v	(Street Address)			(Street Address)			
City Citizenship	County State (Residence)	Zīp	City Citizenship	County State (Residence)	Zip		
Social Security No.			Social Security No.				
			A				

Property of Amoco Chemicals Proprietary—To Be Maintained in Confidence

WITNESS(ES)

Tom Niswander	(Printed Name) Ultrah Hiarker (Signature) December 4, 2000					
(Printed Name)						
(Signature)						
December 4, 2000						
(Date) (Date) December 4, 2000 15. Who in the Company should review this disclosure?						
●、表/ 集、 ●○//						

RECHIVED





United States Patent and Thankhousea Officet

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS United States Patent and Tracemark Office Washington, D.C. 20231 www.usplo.gov

GRP ART UNIT FIL FEE RECD ATTY DOCKETING DRAWINGS TOT CLAIMS IND CLAIMS FILING DATE APPLICATION NUMBER

80/249,304

Chicago, IL 60601-7125

11/16/2000

150

37,273P

BP Amoco Corporation Attn: Docket Clerk Law Department Mail Code 2207A 200 East Randolph Drive

°OC000000005783625

FILING RECEIPT

Date Mailed: 02/23/2001

Receipt is acknowledged of this provisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt, if an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the PTO processes. the reply to the Notice, the PTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Stephen H. Decatur, Houston, TX:

Continuing Data as Claimed by Applicant

Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted 02/22/2001

Title

Motivating prospecting for valuable components

Preliminary Class

Data entry by : SMALLS, DONNA

Team : OIPE

Date: 02/23/2001

LICENSE FOR FOREIGN FILING UNDER Title 35, United States Code, Section 184 Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15

GRANTED

The applicant has been granted a license under 35 U.S.C. 184, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" followed by a date appears on this form. Such licenses are issued in all applications where the conditions for issuance of a license have been met, regardless of whether or not a license may be required as set forth in 37 CRF 5.15. The scope and limitations of this license are set forth in 37 CFR 5.15(a) unless an earlier license has been issued under 37 CFR 5.15(b). The license is subject to revocation upon written notification. The date indicated is the effective date of the license, unless an earlier license of similar scope has been granted under 37 CFR 5.13 or 5.14.

This license is to be retained by the licensee and may be used at any time on or after the effective date thereof unless it is revoked. This license is automatically transferred to any related applications(s) filed under 36 CFR 1.53(d). This license is not retroactive.

The grant of a license does not in any way lessen the responsibility of a licensee for the security of the subject matter as imposed by any Government contract or the provisions of existing laws relating to espionage and the national security or the export of technical data. Licensees should apprise themselves of current regulations especially with respect to certain countries, of other agencies, particularly the Office of Defense Trade Controls, Department of State (with respect to Arms, Munitions and Implements of War (22 CFR 121-128)); the Office of Export Administration, Department of Commerce (15 CFR 370.10 (j)); the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of Treasury (31 CFR Parts 500+) and the Department of Energy.

NOT GRANTED

No license under 35 U.S.C. 184 has been granted at this time, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" DOES NOT appear on this form. Applicant may still petition for a license under 37 CFR 5.12, if a license is desired before the expiration of 6 months from the filing date of the application. If 6 months has lapsed from the filing date of this application and the licensee has not received any indication of a secrecy order under 35 U.S.C. 181, the licensee may foreign file the application pursuant to 37 CFR 5.15 (b).

PLEASE NOTE the following information about the Filing Receipt:

- The articles such as "a," "an" and "the" are not included as the first words in the title of an application. They are considered to be unnecessary to the understanding of the title.
- The words "new," "improved," "improvements in" or "relating to" are not included as first words in the title of an application because a patent application, by nature, is a new idea or improvement.
- The title may be truncated if it consists of more than 600 characters (letters and spaces combined).
- The docket number allows a maximum of 25 characters.
- If your application was submitted under 37 CFR 1.10, your filing date should be the "date in" found on
 the Express Mail label. If there is a discrepancy, you should submit a request for a corrected Filing
 Receipt along with a copy of the Express Mail label showing the "date in."
- The title is recorded in sentence case.

Any corrections that may need to be done to your Filing Receipt should be directed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Office of Initial Patent Examination Customer Service Center Washington, DC 20231

----Original Message-

From:

Sent:

Sloat, Robert E. Thursday, October 12, 2000 11:18 AM Zuffante, Margy V Gabala, James A. Virtual Prospect Invention Disclosure

To:

Cc: Subject:

Please enter this in the hard copy and forward it to you. soon on it.

disclosure system and let me kno the case # assigned. I will get a
We probably will file very

Bob Robert E. Sloat



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 2023I
WWW.USCIO.OF

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY.DOCKET.NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
10/004.603	10/23/2001	2161	824	94,0046	2	10	4

CONFIRMATION NO. 8192

FILING RECEIPT

OC000000007246376

John H. Bouchard Schlumberger Technology Corporation Suite 1700 5599 San Felipe Houston, TX 77056-2722

Date Mailed: 12/31/2001

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Stephen H. Decatur, Houston, TX;

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant
THIS APPLN CLAIMS BENEFIT OF 60/249,304 11/16/2000

Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted 12/31/2001

Projected Publication Date: 05/16/2002

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

Motivating prospecting for valuable components

Preliminary Class

705

LICENSE FOR FOREIGN FILING UNDER Title 35, United States Code, Section 184 Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15

GRANTED

The applicant has been granted a license under 35 U.S.C. 184, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" followed by a date appears on this form. Such licenses are issued in all applications where the conditions for issuance of a license have been met, regardless of whether or not a license may be required as set forth in 37 CFR 5.15. The scope and limitations of this license are set forth in 37 CFR 5.15(a) unless an earlier license has been issued under 37 CFR 5.15(b). The license is subject to revocation upon written notification. The date indicated is the effective date of the license, unless an earlier license of similar scope has been granted under 37 CFR 5.13 or 5.14.

This license is to be retained by the licensee and may be used at any time on or after the effective date thereof unless it is revoked. This license is automatically transferred to any related applications(s) filed under 37 CFR 1,53(d). This license is not retroactive.

The grant of a license does not in any way lessen the responsibility of a licensee for the security of the subject matter as imposed by any Government contract or the provisions of existing laws relating to espionage and the national security or the export of technical data. Licensees should apprise themselves of current regulations especially with respect to certain countries, of other agencies, particularly the Office of Defense Trade Controls, Department of State (with respect to Arms, Munitions and Implements of War (22 CFR 121-128)); the Office of Export Administration, Department of Commerce (15 CFR 370.10 (i)); the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of Treasury (31 CFR Parts 500+) and the Department of Energy.

NOT GRANTED

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Wanninger, Lottie C.

From:

Sent:

To:

Cc: Subject: Wanninger, Lottie C. Friday, December 01, 2000 2:32 PM Decatur, Steve H Zuffante, Margy V Invention Disclosure Questionnaire - Virtual Prospect

Per our telephone conversation last week, I have finally been able to locate a copy of the Invention Disclosure Questionnaire form you completed. I have attached a copy below. Please print an original of the attached, and complete page four of the form, then sign it and return it to me in Chicago,

Thanks





BP Amoco Corporation Law Department

March 14, 2001

Steve Decatur

U. S. Application 60/249,304, Filed November 16, 2000 Motivating Prospecting for Valuable Components, Ref. 32,273P

In connection with the above referenced U. S. Provisional Application, filed in the United States Patent Office on November 16, 2000, enclosed you will find two execution copies of an Assignment which is now required for filing.

Please sign and have both copies of the Assignment notarized and return same to me as quickly as possible.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Robert E. Sloat

Chicago

/lcw

Enclosure